

million for fiscal year 2009 specifically for the development and implementation of new technologies. The Federal share of the grant may not exceed 50 percent and amounts appropriated under this authorization shall remain available until expended.

B. MY PAST AMENDMENTS ON ELDER JUSTICE BILLS

In similar elder legislation, namely the Elder Justice Act and the Elder Abuse Victims Act, I co-sponsored amendments with Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California to provide funding to State, local, and non-profit programs to locate missing elderly. Specifically, my amendment would allow a voluntary electronic monitoring pilot program to assist with the elderly when they are reported missing. In these particular bills, my amendment would allow the Attorney General, in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, to issue grants to States and local government to carry out pilot programs to provide voluntary electronic monitoring services to elderly individuals to assist in the location of such individuals when they are reported missing.

C. ELDER LEGISLATION IS IMPORTANT

Elder legislation such as the legislation before us today and the prior elder bills that I mentioned are important. As elder Americans enter their twilight years, we must do more to protect and ensure their safety. Nothing reminds me more of the necessity of this kind of legislation than my very own experiences in Houston, Texas. A few years ago, the family of Sam Kirk, a native of Houston, Texas, called me to help look for him. Mr. Kirk was elderly and suffered from dementia. He had wandered off and could not be located for several days. His family looked for him for many days but could not find him. In an act of desperation, they called on me to lend my services to help them find him. I helped his family look for him and we found him. When we found Mr. Kirk, he was dehydrated and in need of medical attention. We searched for hours and days to find him. It was worth the time and effort we spent to find him alive and well. Legislation that helps America find and take care of its lost and missing elders is extremely important.

SAMMY KIRK AMENDMENT

I fought hard to get an amendment to this bill, H.R. 6064, the National Silver Alert. The amendment would authorize a voluntary electronic monitoring program to be used to assist in the location of elderly persons. Specifically, the amendment requires the Attorney General, after consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, to award grants to States and units of local government to carry out programs to provide for voluntary electronic monitoring services to elderly individuals to assist in the location of such individuals in the event that such persons are reported missing. It is authorized for \$2 million for each of the fiscal years 2009 through 2014. The amendment is named after Mr. Sammy Kirk, a former constituent of the 18th Congressional District who suffered from Alzheimers and was lost. I, along with his family, searched for him for 3 days only to find him dead near the bayou. The Sam Kirk amendment ensures that other senior Alzheimer patients do not suffer the same fate as Mr. Kirk.

I believe that my amendment and these bills help elderly people. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING THE GRAND OPENING OF THE CEDAR HILL GOVERNMENT CENTER

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the grand opening of the Cedar Hill Government Center in Cedar Hill, Texas. The grand opening for this new facility was held on Tuesday, September 30, 2008.

A community known for its beautiful natural landscape and rolling hills, Cedar Hill is now home to one of the most innovative and efficient government centers in the country. Cedar Hill has always been a community committed to providing the best for its citizens, and the new Government Center is yet another example of that commitment.

The center houses the City of Cedar Hill and the Cedar Hill Independent School District. Built with native Texas materials such as limestone, clay tile and mesquite wood flooring, the centralized facility represents the spirit of Cedar Hill and the great state of Texas.

A model of forward thinking leadership and architecture, this collaborative facility uses 23,000 square feet out of 115,887 square feet specifically for shared-use space and public gatherings. Local residents benefit from the centralized facility's easy access, convenience, and efficiency. The partnering use of facilities not only benefits the community in the long-run, but it also saved taxpayers considerable construction costs.

City and School District officials selected the architecture firms of Holzman Moss and Wiginton Hooker Jeffry and Hunt Construction provided construction oversight. The architects were able to maximize the distinctive character of Cedar Hill, preserving many native trees, utilizing the beautiful surroundings, and preparing for future walking trails so visitors can fully enjoy the natural habitat even further.

Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I congratulate Mayor Rob Franke, City Council members, President of CHSD Dan Hernandez, school board members, and the residents of Cedar Hill on the opening of this facility. The Government Center stands a true symbol of the fabric of this great community. I look forward to seeing the positive impact this center will have on the community and I am extremely proud to represent Cedar Hill in the 24th District of Texas.

IN HONOR OF STAFF SERGEANT ANTHONY L. MASON, TEXAS NATIONAL GUARD

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the courage of a brave and dedicated hero of the state of Texas and of our Nation.

Staff Sergeant Anthony L. Mason, known as Luke to his family and friends, was a soldier in the Texas National Guard and a true American hero. Luke gallantly and selflessly gave

his life in the service of his country on September 18, 2008, when his helicopter went down near Tallil, Iraq.

It was his second tour in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Assigned to 2nd Battalion, 149th Aviation, 36th Combat Aviation Brigade as a helicopter engineer, Luke did his part during a time of war, a fact that speaks volumes about his character and patriotism.

As a Staff Sergeant, he was a leader and mentor to the younger members of his unit. His fellow soldiers admired him for his professionalism, technical knowledge, and his approachable character.

During his civilian life, Luke was a friend to many. His positive influence is evidenced by his community's response to his death and the support they have readily offered to his family.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Staff Sergeant Mason's wife, his four daughters, his parents, and all of his family and friends. His community and Nation honor his memory and we are grateful for his faithful and distinguished service to America.

Staff Sergeant Mason will not be forgotten. His memory lives on through his family and the legacy of selfless service that he so bravely imprinted on our hearts.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

Requesting Member: Rep. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Account: Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Army Account.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: MILSPRAY Camouflage Technologies.

Address of Requesting Entity: 1985 Swarthmore Ave, Lakewood, NJ 08701.

Description of Request: The Force Implementation Phase of this project is the final phase of "Project Kryptolite—Field Deployable Multifunctional Stealth Coating." During Phase II, a complete turnkey "armor enhancement" application system will be forward deployed to Iraq or other ARL-designated theater of operation. The completely integrated stealth coating system will be applied, in theater, to MRAP, Stryker, and other armored vehicles at the direction of Army and Marine Corps commanders. The Stealth Coating System addresses both infrared and thermal signature reduction as well as blast mitigation.

This system can act as an "armor enhancement" material and be applied over existing MRAP, and similar tactical vehicle, armor systems.

This armor enhancement approach would increase the level of blast resistance and substantially improve survivability. The use of this armor enhancement system will substantially reduce injuries and deaths resulting from IEDs, EFPs, and blast fragments. The material, and complete field deployable application system, will be forward deployed. MRAPs, Strykers, and other tactical vehicles will have the Kryptolite Armor Enhancement applied to them.